BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

ZULIMA V. FARBER
ATTORNEY GENERAL OF NEW JERSEY
Division of Law
124 Halsey Street - 5th Floor
P.O. Box 45029
Newark. New Jersey 07101
Attorney for the State of New Jersey
Professional Counselor Examiners Committee
of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage
and Family Therapy Examiners

By: Mileidy Perez, DAG Tel. (973)648-2500

10.00 PAA 102 408 0282

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE
OF THE STATE BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND
FAMILY THERAPY EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSES OF

DAVID A. SINGER License No. 37PC00052600 License No. 37RC00085000

TO PRACTICE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING: AND REHABILITATION COUNSELING: IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY Administrative Action

CONSENT ORDER OF VOLUNTARY SURRENDER OF LICENSURE

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Professional Counselor Examiners Committee of the New Jersey State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners (hereinafter "the Committee") upon receipt of a complaint from N.T., a former client of Respondent David A. Singer alleging professional and sexual misconduct. Respondent who is licensed to practice professional counseling and rehabilitation counseling in the State of New Jersey appeared with counsel Alton D. Kenney, Esq., before the Committee

for an investigative inquiry on April 21, 2005 and September 1, 2005 in response to the complaint.

The Committee reviewed the entire record in this case, including the testimony of Respondent, N.T. and N.T's minor daughter E.T. Of specific concern to the Committee was Respondent's management of the therapeutic needs of N.T. and his failure to preserve standard therapeutic boundaries. Respondent testified that he went out to restaurants and shows with N.T. and members of N.T.'s family including P.T., N.T's husband, and two of N.T.'s minor daughters who were also clients of Respondent. Respondent testified that these social outings were not part of the therapeutic treatment plan for these clients. Respondent further testified that on one occasion he went out to lunch with E.T., who was not a client of his at the request of N.T. During that meeting and in a subsequent email to E.T. Respondent engaged in conversations concerning his therapeutic relationship and friendship with N.T.

In reviewing the record in this matter, the Committee was also concerned with the manner in which Respondent advertises and conducts his private practice. Specifically, the Committee reviewed information contained in Respondent's website in which Respondent indicates that he is licensed by the State Board of Marriage and Family Therapy Examiners, but does not provide the minimum content requirements mandated by regulation identifying his professional

counseling and rehabilitation counseling licenses. Respondent also advertised that he provides "individual psychological counseling." The Committee was further concerned about Respondent's receipt of money for referrals made to a licensee using Respondent's Freehold office.

Based on the Committee's review of the entire record, including Respondent's denial of any wrongdoing, it appears to the Committee that Respondent has engaged in professional misconduct which provides grounds to take disciplinary action against his licenses pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(c), (d) and (e). It also appears to the Committee that Respondent's conduct provides grounds to take disciplinary action against his licenses to practice professional counseling and rehabilitation counseling pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(h), for violating N.J.A.C. 13:34-18.5(a), N.J.A.C. 13:34-29.2, N.J.A.C. 13:34-29.3, N.J.A.C. 13:34-30.4(a), (b), (c), and N.J.A.C. 13:34-30.6(b) and (e).

The Committee having determined that the within disposition is adequately protective of the public health, safety and welfare, and Respondent being desirous of avoiding the necessity and expense of further proceedings in this matter;

IT IS on this SIXTH day of APRIL. 2006, ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

1. Respondent's licenses to practice professional counseling and rehabilitation counseling in the State of New Jersey are hereby

voluntarily and permanently surrendered with prejudice. Respondent understands and agrees that he will be precluded from seeking reinstatement of either of his licenses in this State in the future. Respondent shall return his wall certificates and current licenses to the Committee within thirty (30) days of the filing of the within Consent Order to Elaine DeMars. Executive Director of the New Jersey State Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P.O. Box 45017, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

- 2. Respondent shall cease and desist from advertising, offering to engage in or engaging in the practices of professional counseling and rehabilitation counseling in the State of New Jersey effective thirty (30) days from the filing of the within Consent Order.
- 3. In furtherance of the surrender of his licenses, Respondent shall have thirty (30) days from the entry date of the Consent Order to close his private practice in order to provide for an orderly transfer or referral of patients. Respondent shall submit in writing to the Committee a list of all patients immediately upon signing this Consent Order and shall submit written documentation of the transfer or referral or other disposition for each patient thirty (30) days from the entry of date of the Consent Order. Respondent shall not initiate services

for new patients during the thirty (30) day wind down period of his practice.

Respondent shall pay the costs οf the investigation in the amount of one thousand eight-hundred fiftyeight dollars and fifty cents (\$1,858.50) in three payment installments. The first installment of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) shall be due on April 30, 2006. The second installment of six hundred dollars (\$600.00) shall be due on May 30, 2006 and the final payment of six hundred fifty eight dollars and fifty cents (\$658.50) shall be due on June 30, 2006. In the event of nonpayment of any installment by the end of the month that it is due, the entire balance shall become due and owing, and the Committee may file a certificate of debt and/or an action for collection of debt. costs and attorneys fees. Payments shall be sent to Elaine DeMars, Executive Director of the New Jersey State Professional Counselor Examiners Committee, P.O. Box 45017, 124 Halsey Street, Sixth Floor, Newark, New Jersey 07101.

NEW JERSEY STATE PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE

Masco

Bir -

. Barry Mascari, LPC

Président

I have read and understand the within Consent Order and agree to be bound by its terms. Consent is hereby given to the Committee to enter this Order.

David A. Singer

04/03/06 Date

Consent as to form and entry:

Alton D. Kenney, Esq.

04/03/06 Date